

[54] **FINGER OPERATED ELECTRO-OPTICAL LOCK AND METHOD**

[76] Inventor: **Charles T. Clark, Jr.**, 2339 N.E. 26th St., Lighthouse Point, Fla. 33064

[22] Filed: **Oct. 29, 1973**

[21] Appl. No.: **410,397**

[52] U.S. Cl. .... **70/278; 70/DIG. 51; 250/221; 317/124; 317/134**

[51] Int. Cl. .... **E05b 49/00**

[58] Field of Search ..... **70/278, DIG. 51; 250/209, 250/221; 317/124, 134**

[56] **References Cited**

**UNITED STATES PATENTS**

3,737,685	6/1973	Sharp .....	250/83.3 UV
3,751,718	8/1973	Hanchett .....	317/134
3,769,514	10/1973	Clark .....	250/341

3,812,403 5/1974 Gartner..... 317/134

*Primary Examiner*—Albert G. Craig, Jr.  
*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A finger operated electro-optical lock system in which an optical keyboard having at least one zone indicated thereon is illuminated by ambient energy until touched by a finger of the human hand blocking the radiant energy passing through the zone. A counter is thus enabled to cycle a numeric display. When the first digit of the combination appears in the display, the finger is lifted and reapplied until the second digit of the combination is displayed. The process is repeated until each digit of the combination has been displayed.

**10 Claims, 4 Drawing Figures**

